

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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P.O. Box 1148
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Date Issued: 7/23/2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours from the hours of 6 p.m. Monday, July 23 until 2 a.m. Tuesday, July 24 in the Kotzebue District.

Fishermen are reminded to check with Great Pacific if the buyer needs to shorten the hours they will buy fish because of limited capacity or airline schedules.

Catch during last night's 8-hour fishing period was the largest daily catch this season with over 10,000 chum salmon caught by 37 permit holders. Cumulative catch is nearly 50,000 chum salmon. Catch at this point in the season is average.

The Kobuk River test fish project at Kiana is now operational and catches have been average for the first week.

Continuing with short duration openings should not jeopardize escapement and allow for subsistence fishing opportunity.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.